

# METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOTELY ACTUATING A CIRCUIT PROTECTION DEVICE

## ABSTRACT

5           A method and apparatus for remotely operating a circuit protection  
device, such as a circuit breaker, to move the circuit protection device to an open  
condition to disconnect a load from a power source. The apparatus includes a control  
circuit positioned externally from the circuit protection device. The control circuit  
includes an impedance limiter and a switching device connected in series with each  
10   other. The impedance limiter and switching device are positioned in parallel with the  
load. The switching device can be remotely actuated to move between an open  
position and a closed position. When the switching device is in the closed position,  
the impedance limiter draws a supply of current through the impedance limiter. The  
size of the impedance limiter is selected such that the current drawn from the power  
15   source is greater than the trip current required to move the circuit protection device to  
the open position. Thus, the switching device can be used to remotely actuate the  
circuit protection device.